

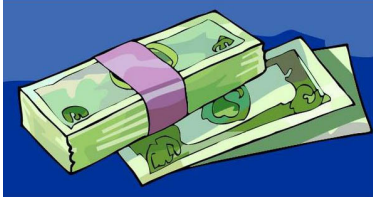


BASS LAKE BULLETIN

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The Voice of the Bass Lake Community

October 2013

www.basslakeaction.org


CONCERNS CLOUD EID BOARD SEAT ELECTIONS

The campaign for the El Dorado Irrigation District board seats is generating controversy after CBS Channel 13 reporter Laura Cole discovered that a campaign mailer was linked to a developer and the address happens to be in building owned by the county. The campaign mailer warns of skyrocketing water rates, and endorses Richard Englefield, who is running against Greg Prada for the District 2 board seat.

The mailer was paid for by the El Dorado County Farmers Businesses and Homebuilders for Responsible Water Policy, a political action committee (PAC). But the return address clearly listed on the ad is 542 Main Street in Placerville. That's the Chamber of Commerce, which is housed in a county-owned building for which the Chamber pays \$1 a year for its five-year lease. Documents filed with the state connect the PAC to area developer Parker Development Group, it's largest contributor.

One El Dorado County leader calls the action illegal. County Auditor Joe Harn calls the PAC's actions "inappropriate," and cites state law saying it's illegal to use public office space for anything campaign-related. "You're not supposed to use an asset of the taxpayers for use in a campaign," Harn said.

The disclosure document filed by the PAC with the California Fair Political Practices Commission states that the PAC was primarily formed to support the candidacy of Richard Englefield who is running against Greg Prada for the District 2 seat, and Dale Coco, who is running against Jake Flesher for the District 4 seat.

Documents filed by Englefield and Coco report that the PAC has given Englefield \$19,881.06 in non-monetary contributions, and has given Coco \$14,556.59 in

non-monetary contributions. Nonmonetary contributions include goods and services for which the candidate has not paid the fair market value, or a discount that is not available to the public generally, or salary payments made by an employer for an employee who spends 10% or more of his or her compensated time working for the candidate's committee. Neither candidate backed by the PAC was available for interviews by the reporter.

Parker released a statement saying, "All of us are united in our commitment to protecting ratepayers from out-of-control water and sewer bills—a serious problem confronting El Dorado County ratepayers."

Reached by the Bulletin, Greg Prada, who is running against Englefield in District 2, stated: "A single leading developer, with tens of millions of dollars at stake from EID board decisions, has orchestrated most all the campaign funding of two EID board candidates. Already one-sixth of EID rates are going to pay for debt costs that developers have not been paying. Ratepayers deserve board members with no stain to their commitment to putting ratepayers first or any taint that they are beholden to grant financial favors to special interests."

Jake Flesher, who is running against Coco in District 4, told the Bulletin: "The voters have a clear choice in this election: someone who is in this race solely for the ratepayers or someone who is beholden to the developer who financed the bulk of his campaign. My goal is to lower the EID's debt, reduce its spending, and put the brakes on these rate hikes. Apparently that doesn't sit well with certain developers in this community, and I'm okay with that." ~

Credit: Laura Cole CBS 13, Sacramento



EID CANDIDATES SPEAK OUT ON ISSUES

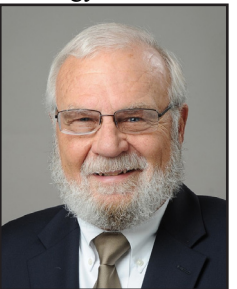
Due to the unavoidable cancellation of BLAC's October Candidate's Forum, we asked the candidates for short responses to four prepared questions. We have reproduced those answers below. - Editor

Candidates Coco and Flesher are running for the EID Board seat in District 4. Candidates Englefield and Prada are running for the seat in District 2.

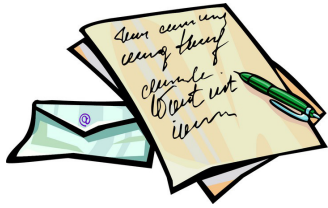
Question 1. What particular skills, experience and background do you have that enhances your suitability for this office?

COCO: I am a retired primary care physician with a degree in Biology from SMU and an MD from the University of Texas. I did post graduate training at Parkland Memorial Hospital and Stanford University Hospital. I spent fifteen years in private practice in South Lake Tahoe and Cameron Park. I retired from Kaiser Permanente in Folsom after seventeen years with the group. I was on, or was project leader of, eight projects that saved the organization hundreds of millions of dollars by decreasing costs while increasing efficiency and quality. Kaiser is now the top rated health care provider in the State in both quality and member satisfaction.

Since retirement I served one term on the Board of the American River Conservancy. After becoming interested in the water issues, both in and outside the County, I spent two years doing research on water issues in El Dorado County. I had multiple conversa-



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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Hello All,

The big news appears to be the imminent sale of Bass Lake and the surrounding property to the Rescue School District. The school district wants the property for a school site, presumably to be located in the northern part of the property (see the map on page five). Of course then the question is, what will happen to Bass Lake?

Research has revealed that the board of supervisors was concerned enough about the fate of Bass Lake to include the lake and surrounding land in the El Dorado Hills Specific Plan as separate Village R back in 1988. The supervisors specified that the lake and the surrounding properties constituted an additional area of permanent open space, which should be returned to public recreational use in the future. They go on to say that designated open space will be preserved in perpetuity.

I am not aware of what plans the El Dorado Irrigation District and the Rescue School Board have for Bass Lake, but I for one would be sad if the lake were to be altered in any way.

The lake and its marshy shore are habitat for migrating birds, including geese, heron and pelicans.

I would like to see the lake left as it is, both a scenic part of the surrounding country, a bit of open space in the neighborhood, and a source of pride to those who live along the road named after Bass Lake.

So let's hope that nothing happens to the lake. I will try and keep you all informed, and I will let you know if we need to take action.

Lastly, don't forget to vote for your candidate in the EID Board of Directors election!

Sincerely,
John Thomson
 President

EID CANDIDATES *(continued)*

tions with major stake holders in water in El Dorado County, including rate payers, agriculture representatives, business leaders and developers. I then had multiple private meetings with EID Managers and Employees Association representatives in order to fully familiarize myself with the operations and financial situation at EID.

I have knowledge of water in the County, State and at EID; I have managerial experience and project leader experience leading to innovative solutions to complex problems. My career has been dedicated to helping people and was based on evaluating situations and making decisions. I love El Dorado County; it has been very good to me and my family and now I want to continue to help people by giving back to the County. I am retired and have plenty of time to dedicate to doing the job including serving on committees, testifying before the Delta Stewardship Council, lobbying politicians in Sacramento and serving on other committees such as the Water Agency, AQUA, Mountain Counties, etc. I intend to maintain a "Kitchen Cabinet" made up of the most knowledgeable water people and stake holders and ratepayers in the County to advise me.

ENGLEFIELD: As former Chair of the El Dorado County Water Agency, Vice Chair of the Water and Power Authority and Board President of the Grizzly Flats Community Service District, I have first-hand knowledge of delivering successful water projects and managing water districts. In addition, I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science.

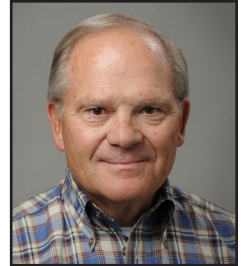
I'll put these experiences to work on the El Dorado Irrigation District Board, making sure our county has a reliable supply of clean affordable water — now and far into the future.

FLESHER: I grew up working each summer on my grandpa's farm and continued on the farm for a year after graduating from UCLA. I learned about business and the very important issues involving water. I then attended law school where my first internship was writing water policy statements for a United States Sen-

ate campaign. I now run my own business which is an 8 lawyer law firm primarily in Folsom with a satellite office in San Francisco. I'm responsible for living within a budget, making payroll, and solving the problems that come with business ownership.

As a lawyer, I am uniquely qualified to quickly assess problems and figure out solutions to those problems. As a trial attorney, I know how to get the best results for my client. In this election, I am the lone voice in Division 4 for the ratepayers, not developers.

PRADA: For the past three and one half years, I have been the most active citizen activist in EID affairs. Following my professional business management career which relocated me ten times across the



United States and Canada, I retired to El Dorado County in 2006. I was introduced to the El Dorado Irrigation District in early 2009 when EID proposed and implemented their conservation rate restructuring (which created revenue shortfalls and subsequently was reversed). When EID announced its 80 percent rate increase plans late in 2009, I joined the citizen ratepayer protest effort of early 2010. From that involvement, I met EID Director Harry Norris who appointed me to EID's 2010-2011 cost of services committee. As the only panel member whose first priority was fair and equitable rates to regular ratepayers, I was the sole dissenting vote in the panel's 9-1 vote to recommend EID's current rate structure.

Dismayed with the cost of services panel's recommendations which led to 102 percent rate hikes for 2010-2015, and also with EID's ongoing disregard for spending restraint, fair rates and truthful public reporting to its 38,000 regular ratepayers, in June of 2011 I co-founded ratepayer advocacy website www.FixEID.org. In the past two years I further have contributed more than fifty ratepayer advocacy articles appearing in the *Mountain Democrat*, *Village Life*, *InEDC*, and *Sacramento Bee*.

If elected to EID's board, I will continue to fight for ratepayers... but newly armed with the strength of one of the five (director) votes that determines how much EID spends, how much rates are raised, and how fairly EID treats its ratepayers.

It just takes three (director) votes to start putting ratepayer interests first! With your vote for me together we can instill good

(continued on page 3)



EID CANDIDATES *(continued)*
government and begin to financially fix EID.

Question 2. Who is endorsing your campaign for the EID Board?

COCO:

Jack Rozance, MD, Physician in Chief,
Kaiser Permanente, Sacramento
Bill Center, former El Dorado County
Board of Supervisors
Norma Santiago, current el Dorado
County Board of Supervisors
Alan Day, current EID Board of Directors
Penny Humphreys, former El Dorado
County Supervisor
Rick Lind, Water and Energy Consultant
Kimberly Beal, Realtor
Jason Wetsel, Financial Consultant
Linda Sanford, President American River
conservancy
Ray Pingle, Board of Directors, California
Sierra club
Greg Boeger, Boeger Winery
Paul Bush, Madrona Winery
El Dorado County Chamber of Commerce
El Dorado County Board of Realtors
Building Industry Associates
Multiple neighbors, former patients and
residents of EID Division 4

ENGLEFIELD: My supporters are made up of the El Dorado County agriculture community, local businesses and ratepayers throughout the entire county who share a common concern that fiscal accountability must be restored within EID — and who believe I have the experience to help make that happen.

FLESHER: The El Dorado County Republican Party, Tea Party Patriots of El Dorado Hills, and Representing Ratepayers Political Action Committee, a group dedicated to electing people who are going to advocate on behalf of EID ratepayers, publicly endorse me.

PRADA: Representing Ratepayers Political Action Committee is endorsing my candidacy as are certain good government entities espousing fiscal responsibility. A multitude of special interest groups are endorsing my opponent most all having ties to a new PAC formed by Parker Development which has contributed \$20,000 to my opponent. My opponent has three times the campaign funding I have raised exclusively from ratepayers and myself.

Question 3. What would your focus be if elected and what do you hope to accomplish and how soon?

COCO: Stop runaway rate increases, cut debt, secure and protect our water, and maintain local control of our water to

ensure adequate water for our future at a reasonable rate. The first step in controlling runaway rate increases is to control the cost of operations. But that is more than just cutting costs. We must re-tool EID to be more efficient, cost effective and to live within a budget without compromising water quality or quantity. We need solutions that will eliminate the problems, not eliminate quality through cuts alone.

A few of my solutions to re-tool EID, lower costs, decrease the debt and stop the runaway rate increases include:

Reducing the cost of servicing the \$370,000,000 debt. As an example of debt reduction, we need to ensure that a portion of all fees paid to EID is relegated to paying off the debt. Lock in low interest rates on the existing debt and make sure that all debt is retired on time.

Evaluating all operations at EID with a Total Quality Management and a Value Engineering approach. The implementation of the results will make EID more efficient, reduce costs, and maintain quality. As EID becomes more efficient, the cost of operations goes down and so do the rate increases.

No more salary or benefit increases funded by increasing rates on the ratepayer.

Using a portion of all fees, not only to pay down the debt, but to start a capital expansion and improvement fund. Ensure that all future capital expenditures are paid for from this fund and not rate increases.

The third highest cost of operations at EID which is chemicals and supplies can be reduced using the same modalities that I used at Kaiser as the Project Leader of the Clinical Pharmacy Program, which saved Kaiser Permanente \$10 million a year over a ten year period for a total savings of 100 million dollars.

ENGLEFIELD: As EID Director, I will immediately work to reduce the debt — it is unacceptable. Secondly, I will look to eliminate wasteful spending, improve efficiencies, secure and protect our water from outside interest — and pragmatically work with the other board members to ensure all ratepayers have clean affordable water.

FLESHER: Despite much rhetoric, the issues facing the EID are not that complicated. They've incurred \$370 million in variable interest rate debt to finance infrastructure for development, spend too much money on overhead, have millions in unfunded pension liability, and have raised our rates 102% over the past few years with an additional 22% coming. They currently have plans to add another \$60 million in debt to begin financing a \$475 million Water Master Plan.

My plan is straight-forward: I will insist that the EID put a moratorium on new debt for development and cut spending so that we roll back the proposed 11% rate increases set for next year. This can be done in the first few months in office.

As I have promised EID management, I will not be a rubber stamp for spending proposals. Every decision I make will be viewed through the lens of the ratepayers, and only the ratepayers, because EID Board Members are supposed to be representatives of the people who elected them, not the people who paid for their campaign. With a strong board committed to the ratepayers, the EID will be able to better negotiate contracts, address labor issues, and streamline processes that will drive costs, and ultimately rates, down.

PRADA: My candidacy is based on putting ratepayers first. EID's deep fiscal woes and runaway rate hikes emanate from the EID board perpetually placing special interests above what is best and fair to ratepayers. Runaway deficit spending, cascading debt and below cost rate and fee subsidies have characterized the EID board's decision making over the past twelve years. My priorities are as stated in this précis from the League of Women Voters' Smart Voter listing: http://www.smartvoter.org/2013/11/05/ca/ed/vote/prada_g/ As for timing, I am committed to achieving notable initial results in the first 100 days, including a partial rollback of the 11 percent rate hike for 2014: this rate hike roll back would be cost-enabled by pushing back more capacity expansion and slashing excessive EID overhead.

Question 4. There has been a general lack of responsiveness by the EID board to the average rate payer's plight as they continue to raise the rates for water and sewer for most of us at least 100% or more in the last few years. What exactly do you intend to do to curb spending and advocate for the ratepayers? How is what you plan to accomplish different from your opponent?

COCO: Most of the answers to this question are above. As far as advocating for ratepayers I would have ratepayers on my "Kitchen Cabinet" in order to get their views before the Board. The spending curves would come from the decreased cost of operations as outlined above, including paying down the debt to decrease the debt service in the cost of operations and developing a capital improvement fund to prevent the need for further borrowing.

My plan differs from my opponent's in that he advocates cuts only as a way of

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EID CANDIDATES *(continued)*

achieving things. No company can cut its way to success; it has to innovate its way to success. Other counties that have attempted to control their rising water rates by simply cutting have ended up in disaster. A perfect example is Tuolumne County. This method has also been tried in several other counties with an equal lack of success and disastrous outcomes.

Yes, some things need to be cut, that is the five percent that prevents the first five percent rate increase from happening. After that point, cutting will only result in cutting quality and service. The projects I ran at Kaiser Permanente had three mandates: they were to cut cost, increase efficiency, and maintain or increase quality. That is exactly what EID needs. I have the background, training, ability, time, and knowledge to help EID not just survive, but thrive, and not on the backs of the ratepayers.

Lastly, throughout my career, I have been successful at moving projects forward by bringing people together, finding common ground, building on that common ground to develop a consensus in order to move the project forward. I am known for being able to bring people together in order to work together to produce a mutually positive outcome. I have served on other boards, committees and commissions where I have been known for this ability. There are five directors on the Board at EID, one “no” vote will not produce any results. That Director’s chair becomes just an empty seat. I am endorsed by Alan Day in Division 5 and he and I have already been working together towards common goals. I can assure you that we can find at least one other vote on the Board to move our projects forward.

ENGLEFIELD: Yes, EID’s spending is out of control — and yes, to support their spending habits the board has continuously raised rates on the backs of all ratepayers — this is unacceptable.

First, I will absolutely not approve deficit spending or new debt that would jeopardize EID or harm ratepayers. Secondly, I will work to stop the out of control spending, eliminate waste and streamline operations. Thirdly, I will work with board members to solve problems for all ratepayers — not divide them. Finally, my experience delivering successful water projects and managing water districts is what separates me from my opponent. I know how to lead and work within a team and get the job done. I have a proven record of doing just that.

FLESHER: Not only has their been a lack of responsiveness by the EID Board to the

average ratepayers, there has been open disdain for ratepayers by the current Board. At a recent meeting where developers received a sweetheart deal on their hook-up fees, Board President George Osborne, who supports my opponent, berated ratepayer advocate Greg Prada when Mr. Prada questioned why developers’ rates went up about 8% compared to the ratepayers’ increase of 102%.

In terms of advocacy, that is what I do for a living. I also lead by example. If I’m going to ask the EID to curb its spending, I believe it should start with me. Because I’m fortunate to have a successful company that I’ve worked very hard to build, I will not take the \$1250 monthly stipend or the family health insurance benefits that comes from being an EID Board Member.

As described above, my plan is to put a moratorium on new debt.

I also want to reassess the costs that are being passed onto developers. The decision to develop rests with those who have been elected to the Board of Supervisors and if they decide when and where development should occur, then I believe those that intend to profit off of that development should pay for the infrastructure needed to develop, not the ratepayers. This position is seemingly at odds with my opponent, who has received \$15,000 from a group who calls themselves “Farmers Businesses and Home Builders for Responsible Water Policy,” but is mostly funded by Parker Development Company.

In addition, I plan to look to ways to use the excess water we have (currently the EID only uses about ½ its water) as a source of revenue for the EID. We need to think creatively to solve these problems and the status quo isn’t working.

I also think the ratepayers need better opportunities to be heard. EID Board Meetings occur on Monday mornings in Placerville when many are at work, taking children to school, or otherwise starting their week. I think that if 73% of EID rates are from El Dorado Hills and Cameron Park, then a proportionate amount of public meetings should occur in these two towns at hours when our folks can attend and be heard.

I believe in the principles of hard work. I’ve walked our neighborhoods, debated the issues, raised money from family and friends, talked at neighborhood functions, and even put up my own signs.

I’m not a product of a bureaucracy and believe that if you see a problem, you should try to do something about it. As my critics point out, I am busy with my business and family but the EID is at a point where

we need fresh new leaders to step in and solve these problems. This isn’t a political stepping-stone for me. The EID is an organization that, left unchecked, will drive people out of El Dorado Hills, Cameron Park, and Shingle Springs because of the high water and sewer bills we get every two months. I want to fix it so my children and grandchildren can afford to live here.

Thanks for the opportunity to address these important issues. Feel free to let me know if you have any additional questions.

jakeflesher@gmail.com

PRADA: My opponent is sponsored by most all of EID’s special interest groups... especially the developers whom EID ratepayers subsidize by paying 17 percent in extra rates to pay for excess capacity. As I am committed to putting ratepayers first and have no financial special interest obligations to repay, I have no duty to continue adding more excess capacity and other excessive spending that benefits EID’s developers, bond salesmen, employees, contactors and consultants. ~

PROPOSED USE OF BASS LAKE PROPERTY QUESTIONED BY BLAC

Representatives of the Bass Lake Action Committee (BLAC) who have examined the El Dorado Hills Specific Plan in order to clarify the land use designations of the Bass Lake property parcel have discovered that the land is designated as permanent open space.

The lake and the surrounding property, consisting of about 150 acres, is a part of the El Dorado Hills Specific Plan (EDHSP) adopted in 1988 by the county board of supervisors, and is designated as Village R in the specific plan document. The property is currently owned by the El Dorado Irrigation District, which is negotiating to sell the property to the Rescue School District for a school site.

A specific plan is a tool for the systematic implementation of the general plan. The California Government Code mandates that a specific plan shall specify the distribution, location, and extent of open space within the area covered by the plan in detail.

BLAC has found that Village R is proposed to be rezoned under the El Dorado County Land Use Policy Programmatic Update (LUPPU) from its current status to High Usage Recreation. Such a rezone would allow the property to be used for recreational activities such as sports fields,
(continued on page 5)



Map showing location of the EID property with Bass Lake that makes up Village R in the El Dorado Hills Specific Plan and the adjacent property owned by El Dorado County

BASS LAKE *(continued)*

sports complexes, recreational parks, and amusement parks.

BLAC believes that the proposed zoning change would be in direct contravention to provisions of the specific plan. The specific plan states that the lake and the surrounding properties constitute an additional area of permanent open space.

The specific plan’s design guidelines provide that natural open space will be preserved in perpetuity in an essentially unaltered condition, that no development will occur in these areas except for maintenance, fire protection, trails, and permitted uses, and (c) use will be restricted to such activities as jogging, hiking, and horseback riding, where the impact on the natural environment will be minimal.” (See specific plan, page B-12).

Therefore it appears that this restriction prohibits using any of the dedicated natural open space in the EDHSP, including Village R, for high recreational use.

Second, the property in all probability meets the definition of a wetland and as such is protected under both California and Federal law and regulations from being used for any purpose other than open space.

BLAC will continue to investigate the status of the Lake and the surrounding property, with the goal of preserving Bass Lake and the wildlife it shelters along its shore.

Contact Kathy Prevost 530-672-6836 if you are interested in joining our efforts to save Bass Lake. ~.



THE ORIGIN OF THE JACK-O’-LANTERN

A jack-o’-lantern is a carved pumpkin, turnip or beet, which is associated chiefly with the holiday of Halloween. They were originally named after the phenomenon of strange lights flickering over peat bogs, called will-o’-the-wisps or jack-o’-lanterns. To make a jack-o’-lantern, the top is cut off, and the inside flesh scooped out; an image, usually a monstrous face, is carved in it, and the lid replaced. A candle placed inside may provide illumination.

The origin of jack-o’-lantern carving is inexact. Some think that its carving originated in Ireland, where turnips, mangel-wurzel or beets were decorated. Others claim that jack-o’-lanterns began with All Saints’ Day, which falls on November 1, or All Souls’ Day, which falls on November 2, and that they represented Christian souls in purgatory. Historian and author Christopher Hill writes that “jack-o’-lanterns were carved out of turnips or squashes and were literally used

as lanterns to guide guisers [trick-or-treaters in dis-”guise”] on All Hallows’ Eve” which later became Halloween. Archaeologist Bettina Arnold writes that they were sometimes set on window sills to keep the guisers out of one’s home. Jack-o-lanterns were also supposed to be a way of protecting your home against ghosts, and superstitious people purportedly used them specifically to ward away vampires.

Despite these claims and stories, no historian has been able to prove that turnips were carved into lanterns in Ireland during Halloween, prior to the practice of pumpkin carving becoming popular in the United States.

The application of the term jack-o’-lantern to carved pumpkins in America was first seen in 1834. The carved pumpkin lantern association with Halloween is recorded in 1866 in the U.S. In the United States, the carved pumpkin was first associated with the harvest season in general, long before it became an emblem of Halloween. In 1900, a *New York Times* article on Thanksgiving entertaining recommended a lit jack-o’-lantern as part of the festivities. Influential American Quaker poet John Greenleaf Whittier wrote *The Pumpkin* in 1850:

*Oh!—fruit loved of boyhood!—the old days recalling,
When wood-grapes were purpling and brown nuts were falling!
When wild, ugly faces we carved in its skin,
Glaring out through the dark with a candle within!*

In folk tales, the story of the jack-o’-lantern comes in many variants, and is similar to the story of will-o’-the-wisp, retold in different forms across Ireland and Scotland. An old Irish folk tale tells of Stingy Jack, a lazy yet shrewd farmer who used a cross to trap the Devil. One story says that Jack tricked the Devil into climbing an apple tree, and once he was up there Jack quickly placed crosses around the trunk or carved a cross into the bark, so that the Devil couldn’t get down. Another tale says that Jack put a key in the Devil’s pocket while he was suspended upside-down.

Yet another version of the story says that Jack was getting chased by some villagers from whom he had stolen, when he met the Devil, who claimed it was time for him to die. However, the thief forestalled his death by tempting the Devil with a chance to aggravate the church-going villagers who were chasing him. Jack told the Devil to turn into a coin with which he would pay for the stolen goods (the Devil could take on any shape he wanted); later, when the coin turned back

(continued on page 6)

JACK-O'-LANTERN *(continued)*

into the Devil and disappeared, the Christian villagers would fight over who had stolen it. The Devil agreed to this plan. He turned himself into a silver coin and jumped into Jack's wallet, only to find himself next to a cross Jack had also picked up in the village. Jack closed the wallet tight, and the cross stripped the Devil of his powers; and so he was trapped.

In both tales, Jack only lets the him go when the Devil agrees never to take his soul. After a while Jack the thief dies, as all living things do. Of course, his life had been too sinful for Jack to go to Heaven; however, the Devil had promised not to take his soul, and so he was barred from Hell as well. Jack now had nowhere to go. He asked how he would see where to go, as he had no light, and the Devil mockingly tossed him an live ember from the flames of Hell that would never burn out. Jack carved out one of his turnips (which were his favorite food), put the ember inside it, and began endlessly wandering the Earth for a resting place. He became known as "Jack of the Lantern," or "Jack-o'-Lantern." ~



A Song in October

Clouds gather, treetops toss and sway;
But pour us wine, an old one!
That we may turn this dreary day
To golden, yes, to golden!

Autumn has come, but never fear,
Wait but a little while yet,
Spring will be here, the skies will clear,
And fields stand deep in violets.

The heavenly blue of fresh new days
Oh, friend, you must employ them
Before they pass away. Be brave!
Enjoy them; oh, enjoy them!

—Theodor Storm

**BLAC BOARD MET
IN OCTOBER, SETS
NOVEMBER MEETING
AND DECEMBER
CHRISTMAS PARTY**

The October meeting of the Board of Directors of Bass Lake Action Committee was held on October 7, 2013 at 7:00 PM at the home of Dee and Denny Olberding, 4068 Kirkwood Drive, in El Dorado Hills. The EID Candidates Forum was cancelled due to the inability of two candidates to attend the meeting.

The November regular membership meeting will be held on November 7, 2013 at 7:00 PM at the home of Hal and Barbara Erpenbeck, 9045 Orchid Shade Drive, El Dorado Hills, 530-677-5533. Nominations for officers for 2014 will be on the agenda.

This year's Christmas Party will be held on the evening of December 2nd at the home of Stewart and Sue Colvin in El Dorado Hills.

All BLAC members are cordially invited to attend all BLAC regular and board meetings. For additional information, contact Kathy Prevost at 530-672-6836. ~

**BASS LAKE VILLAGE
LLAD ASSESSMENT TO
BE EXAMINED BY BLAC**

Acting upon inquiries from homeowners in Bass Lake Village Landscape and Lighting Assessment District (LLAD), which includes Hills of El Dorado (Zone A) and Woodridge (Zone B), representatives of BLAC expect to meet this month with El Dorado Hills Community Services District (CSD) officials to review the fiscal year 2014 LLAD assessments for Woodridge. Of special interest will be the manner in which overhead expenses are allocated to the LLAD.

The inquiry, which was to start in September, was delayed because CSD personnel were away on vacation.

CSD Director Terry Crumpley is spearheading the effort to identify direct costs and indirect cost allocations.

The LLAD assessments maintain the entry landscaping and the street lights of Woodridge and Hills of El Dorado under the management of the CSD. ~

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